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PEMBROKE, N.C.

"Building Communicative Bridges
in A Tri-Racial Setting"

ROBESON COUNTY

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CHARGES AGAINST PEMBROKE AND OFFICIALS DISMISSED BY JUDGE MCKINNON

PEMBROKE-As expected, Judge Henry A. McKinnon, Jr. threw out charges lodged against the Town of Pembroke and officials, Town Manager, McDuffie Cummings, Police Chief, Vernon Oxendine, and former Police Sergeant Harvey Bullard last Friday evening in a proceeding before his court in Robeson's Superior Court.

The charges had been lodged by Alfred W. Cook, via his attorneys, Osborne Lee, Jr. and Earl Britt. Cook had sued for some \$5 million claiming that he had been falsely arrested and imprisoned after, as he termed it, assault and battery. He also claimed that the town officials had trespassed upon his property, located approximately behind Woodell's Park and Shop Store and in front of Cliff's Package Store.

The land in question had been used as an alley way for years without interruption until Cook appeared one day and began plowing up the property with intention of barricading it from public use as he did later.

The town officials, in turn, sued Cook for \$100,000, as they saw it, for having libelous statements printed in the Robesonian, the daily county newspaper. Cook's attorney, Osborne Lee, Jr. is the Robesonian's attorney of record, explaining to many how the complaint was aired in the Robesonian on the same day that it was filed in court proceedings, more than a year and two months after the alleged incident occurred.

The incident occurred May 28, 1978 when Cook claimed he was yanked off his tractor and taken to the police station and charged with malicious damage to real property and resisting arrest. Cook's tractor, according to participants in the case, rammed into a Pembroke police car during the incident.

McKinnon threw out charges of false imprisonment and assault and battery against the town officials because the statute of limitations had run out in the case. The statute of limitations is a year in the case.

McKinnon also set a date for "unanswered questions" to be answered in the case. Depositions will be taken from Cook, Cummings and Oxendine in a hearing in Superior Court today at 9 a.m.

After that, according to those familiar with the case, McKinnon will entertain motions from Dexter Brooks, representing the town and Dickson McLean, representing the officials for a motion for dismissal in the case, closing out a case that has hung like a heavy cloud over the town for some two years now.

McKinnon is expected to "absolutely" finish dismissing the other phase of Cook's complaint, including charges that the officials caused the criminal process to be lodged against him and charges of trespass.

The Pembroke Jaycees will sponsor a kite flying contest on Saturday, April 5, 1980 at 10 a.m. for children 12 years old and younger. The event will be held at Pembroke Tire Service and prizes will be awarded to winners in the various categories.

Chapel Hill-Cultural activities and a health conference focused on North Carolina's Indian population Monday-Thursday, March 31-April 3, at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

In Search of an Identity was the theme of the fifth annual American Indian Cultural Week at UNC-Chapel Hill, sponsored by the Carolina Indian Circle, a campus-based Indian organization.

Included in the week was the second annual American Indian Health Conference which was held Thursday and titled Perspectives on American Indians in Health and Health Professions: Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow. It is co-sponsored by the UNC-CH Division of Health Affairs.

All activities were free and open to the public.

Dr. Bobby Brayboy gave the key note address for the week, speaking on The Identity of the American Indian: Historical, Cultural and Educational Perspectives. His address was given at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday in 103 Berryhill Hall.

Brayboy is a Lumbee Indian from North Carolina who served with the Indian Health Service and now is special assistant to the director of the U.S. Public Health Service Bureau of Medical Services.

Other speakers during the week included Adolph Dial, a Lumbee Indian who is professor of American Indian Studies at Pembroke State University, and Bruce Barton, editor of The Carolina Indian Voice newspaper, published in Pembroke.

Cultural events, including dancing, films and outdoor drama, demonstrated the different aspects of Indian culture, said Joseph Bell, chief of the Carolina Indian Circle.

Performances were held in the Pit at noon Monday-Wednesday. The Metro-lina Indian Dancers were featured Monday and the Coharie Indian Dancers Tuesday. Wednesday's performers were from the outdoor drama strike at the Wind which is produced each summer at Pembroke.

Keynote speaker for the health conference was Dr. H.C. Townsley, chief of the mental health branch of the Indian Health Service. He will speak on Perspectives on Cultural Factors and Mental Health Among American Indians at 9 a.m. Thursday in 105 Berryhill Hall.

Speakers at the lunch session was Dr. Jimmy Jones, chairman of the department of family practices at the East Carolina University Medical School, and Dr. E. Lavonia Allison, director of the N.C. Health Manpower Development Program at UNC-CH.

PEOPLE AND LAND THINGS

FOUND GUILTY IN CUMBERLAND COUNTY DISTRICT COURT

Ralph Hunt, Chairman of the Robeson County Board of Education and office operations supervisor for the Fayetteville district census office, was convicted of reckless driving after driving Thursday in Cumberland County District Court.

Hunt, of Lumberton, was found not guilty of a second offense of driving under the influence, but was convicted on the lesser charge.

Judge Derb Carter sentenced him to 90 days and suspended the sentence. He also sentenced Hunt to a year's probation, a \$100 fine and payment of about \$27 in court costs.

Records indicate that Hunt registered a blood-alcohol reading of .13 percent on the Breathalyzer when he was arrested Jan. 26 at 2:25 a.m. on U.S. 301 near Fayetteville.

A reading of .10 percent is sufficient to be convicted of driving under the influence in North Carolina.

In Robeson County District Court Nov. 16, 1978, Hunt was convicted of driving under the influence, according to court records.

PEMBROKE POST OFFICE PAIR ARRESTED

Two long time employees of the Pembroke Post Office have been charged with misappropriation of post office funds.

James C. "Charlie" Locklear and Fred Locklear were arrested last Thursday and released on their own recognizance by federal officials.

Little information was available on the matter although, according to one familiar with the case, "a small amount of money is in question."

No court date has been set yet. The two men have been suspended until the matter is resolved.

BELINDA BREWINGTON REAPS HONOR STUDENT STATUS AT UNC

Belinda Brewington, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bob Brewington of Pembroke, was on of 92 students honored for outstanding academic achievement at UNC-Chapel Hill last Thursday night by the UNC-CH chapter of the Pre-Professional Health Society. She maintained a B-average.

The society, an undergraduate organization for student pursuing degrees in health related fields honored Blacks and American Indian students who have excelled with B or better grade averages.

Another local student honored was Ilish Cummings of Lumberton.

REVIVAL PLANNED

Revival begins at the Pembroke Church of God on Sunday, April 6, at 7:30 p.m. Guest speaker will be Rev. James Franklin Hunt of Greensboro, NC. Special singing will be featured each night and prayer for the sick. Everyone is cordially invited to attend. Rev. Jack Hunt is the pastor.

SUNRISE SERVICE SET AT PHILADELPHUS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

A Sunday Sunrise Service will be held at 5 a.m. Sunday morning at Philadelphia United Methodist Church, located on Highway 710 between Pembroke and Red Springs.

The pastor, Rev. Ted Brooks, and the membership, extend a cordial invitation to all.

HEARING PLANNED ON NEW SCOTLAND MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

Set for Tuesday night at 7:30 p.m. in the Old Main Auditorium

PEMBROKE--Trustees of Scotland Memorial Hospital have scheduled a public meeting in the Old Main Auditorium on the Pembroke State University campus for April 8, 1980 at 7:30 p.m.

The meeting, informational in nature, will answer questions concerning the new Scotland Memorial Hospital which will be built on the Highway 74 By pass south of Laurinburg. The new hospital, with all private rooms, will have 125 beds.

The meeting is scheduled on the PSU campus because traditionally Scotland Memorial Hospital has had an infusion of patients from Robeson County.

Doctors and administrators from the hospital will attend to answer all pertinent questions about the hospital, and will also present visual aids.

Everyone is asked to attend.

EASTER CANTATA

The Youth Choir of the Saddletree Church of God will present and Easter Cantata entitled He's Alive on Saturday night, April 5, at 7 p.m. Judy Jacobs is director.

"A People Proud"

by Lew Barton
Knight of Mark Twain

Thursday, March 17 at 7:30 p.m. the American Indian Study Association of Lumberton Senior High School presented in the school auditorium, a program entitled, "A People Proud." In attendance were some 200 to 300 persons. Responsible for the content of the program were A.I.S.A. President Ray Locklear and student advisor Jacqueline H. Clark. The purpose of the program was to "express in a small-but yet powerful way--our gratitude to our many outstanding Indian leaders." The program included portrayals of and paid tribute to "various outstanding Indian leaders."

The lighting arrangements were spectacular, the costuming gorgeous, and certainly the ideas underlying the program were good and commendable. Unfortunately, however, the tribute paid to various persons, including myself, lacked depth and sometimes accuracy. This flaw made the program also seem insincere, especially in some areas.

Nevertheless, it was a great first effort, and coming from our own young people, reflected pride in our heritage. So much so that I can forgive them for failing to get my name right--and a few other things.

The youngsters paid tribute to me as "the first noted poet and writer among the Lumbee people." And that I really appreciate. But the statement that another Lumbee name was the only detailed history of the Lumbee people, seems to add, My own history remains cold. My own history remains cold. My own history remains cold.

APPEARING AT THE ROBESON COUNTY FAIRGROUND

It is not often that youngsters are able to outperform their adult counterparts in any endeavor. Under the Circus Big Top, especially, there is something to be said for the skills and techniques that only age and experience can provide. Therefore, it is significantly astounding that Clyde Beatty-Cole Bros. Circus is able to feature a series of stars whose acrobatic abilities and flair for showmanship belie their youth.

When the World's Largest Circus under the Big Top opens on Monday, April 7 at the Robeson County Fairgrounds, Lumberton audiences will witness the presentation of an array of amazing adolescent artists.

Fourteen-year-old Dino Menendez has earned the sobriquet "Wizard of the Wire," a nickname previously reserved only for the great Circus wire walker Con Colleano! According to one writer, "Dino has a natural flair for the wire and does several maneuvers that few performers with many years exper-

ience can do." Perhaps the greatest tribute to Dino Menendez came from Karl Walenda just three weeks prior to his fatal fall. Said the old master, "The boy is very good; he could be the world's best in a few years." The son of Rafael and Jana Menendez, two prominent Circus performers, young Dino appears in the ring with his younger sister, 12-year-old Anita. Together the brother-and-sister team gives inspiration to Circus fans and folks alike.

No less an accomplished performer is 13-year-old Martin Alvarez. As the daring young BOY on the flying trapeze, Martin is currently the world's youngest aerialist to perform the treacherous triple somersault on a consistent basis. The triple somersault has caused the deaths of many Circus performers since the flying trapeze was developed in the mid-nineteenth century; which makes Martin Alvarez that much more of a phenomenon! Performing high above the Circus audience, Martin is part of the Flying Alvarez Troupe which

includes his father Raul and his mother Maria, as well as the oft heralded catcher, DeWayne Pittenger. Many observers consider them the most important trapeze act to appear in Clyde Beatty-Cole Bros. Circus in almost one hundred years! Comments Martin Alvarez, "I also have a sister who is just starting to perform. I think she is too young, but she has natural talent, and is eager to start working!" Carolina Alvarez is six years old.

In exhibiting the expertise of such gifted young performers, Clyde Beatty-Cole Bros. Circus is accomplishing two major goals. First and foremost is the presentation of premiere performances by acclaimed artists for the entertainment of the Circus' esteemed audiences. Second is the development of talent so that future generations of Americans will have the same opportunity to enjoy the quality family entertainment that today's spectators see at the world's Largest Circus under the Big Top.



Make way for the Big Top--the World's largest circus under the Big Top, the CLYDE BEATTY-COLE BROS. CIRCUS, comes to Robeson

County Fairgrounds April 7 & 8. Featuring over 100 performers and animals, from ten foreign countries, CLYDE BEATTY-COLE BROS.

CIRCUS provides "thrill of all ages" with a two-hour, three-ring, newest spectacular which is all new for 1980.

PEMBROKE RECEIVES

\$719,000 for Community Development

Pembroke-Town officials were ecstatic. Said Mayor Pro tem Sam Dial, "It's the first good news we have had in a long time after a period of nothing but negative stuff about our good town."

Said Town Manager McDuffie Cummings, "It's real good news; there is a real need for the monies and we are looking forward to getting involved in the project."

Pembroke had asked for \$719,000 to upgrade the area in the Barker-Godwin Streets area, fronting the newly developed Strickland Heights and the Clinton L. Thomas, Jr. Day Care Center and Community Building. Amazingly enough, after a number of turndowns, they received the full amount requested.

The grant announcement follows some criticism of HUD officials by Pembroke citizenry last year, prompting a visit to the area by Betsy Stafford, HUD's area manager.

When re-applying earlier this year Mayor "Pete" Jacobs and the other town officials prefaced their application with some introductory remarks, explaining the unique nature of Pembroke.

The application noted that Pembroke's population is approximately 90 percent Indian constituting a majority of the town's citizenry while being a

distinct minority nationally.

A second special condition noted was the fact that Pembroke has had "Local rule" for only 35 years. Previous to this the governor (with the help of existing political order at that time) appointed the mayor and town councilmen for Pembroke. For this reason, Pembroke had a late start in developing managerial and financial capabilities to provide basic services and amenities to its citizens.

The final point made by the town was the unique way Pembroke has developed. Because of the town's predominate Indian population segregation has not developed significantly like in other nearby towns.

The targeted area is identified as the most blighted area in Pembroke in regard to overall street condition, drainage and housing condition.

The grant will be used primarily to upgrade the privately owned homes in the area and also bringing the homes up to existing standards with curbing, water and sewage and other general improvements.

It is the first significant grant the town has ever received.

Nearby Red Springs also received \$1,983,000 to continue its extensive community development program. Lumberton, Fairmont, and St. Pauls were turned down.

REGISTRATION SET AT LUMBEE LONGHOUSE LEARNING CENTERS

Pre-registration for the Lumbee Longhouse Learning Centers sponsored by Lumbee Indian Education, Lumbee Regional Development Association will be held on April 8, 1980 from 8:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m. at the following locations: LRDA Annex Building, Reedy Branch Church Education Building and the Lumbee Longhouse Learning Center located behind Saddletree Church of God. Indian children not entering kindergarten during the school term

1980-81, and who are between the ages of 3 and 5 may apply. Only a limited number of children may enroll and only limited transportation will be provided for students at the Magnolia and Fairgrove Centers. The program is supported by a grant from the U.S. Office of Education, Title IV Part B. For further information you may contact Ms. Andrea D. Scott, Early Childhood Specialist, LRDA Annex, 521-2401.